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REMARKS

Responsive to the final Office Action mailed December 29, 2005, Applicant has studied the Examiner's comments and the cited art. Claims 1, 3-16 and 21-24 are pending prior to entry of this Amendment. Following entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3-11, 13-16 and 21-23 and 25-36 are pending. In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

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Section 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 3-9 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Parker, U.S. Pat. 5,410,457.

Claim 1 has been amended to include that the lightbox has a light source capable of emitting a directional light beam, the light source being movable relative to the first member to direct the directional light beam in various directions relative to the first member and a hand receiving opening adapted to receive a portion of the user's hand.

Parker does not teach or suggest such features! Parker does not teach or suggest a light source 72 being movable relative to the first member 54 to direct a directional light beam in various directions relative to the first member 54. Nor does Parker teach or suggest a hand receiving opening defined between the handle portion 12, first member 54 and lightbox 74 adapted to receive a portion of the user's hand. Quite clearly, the "opening" of Fig. 2 is not a hand receiving opening.

Amended independent claim 6 includes the features of a handle member, a hand strap attached to the handle member and a lightbox connected to the handle member, the lightbox having a light source capable of emitting a directional light beam and the light source being positionable relative to the handle member to adjust both the vertical and horizontal directions of the directional light beam. Parker does not teach or suggest such features. Parker does not teach or suggest a hand strap attached to the handle member. Neither does Parker teach or suggest a directional light beam from a light source that is positionable relative to the handle member to adjust both the vertical and horizontal directions of the directional light beam. Parker only teaches positioning of the light source relative to the handle member to adjust the vertical direction of the light beam when the handle portion is vertical.

Claim 13 has been amended to include the features that the lightbox has a battery receiving portion and the handle portion, first member and lightbox form a substantially inverted U-shaped configuration defining a hand receiving opening adapted to receive a portion of a user's hand.

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Parker does not teach or suggest such features. Parker does not teach or suggest either a lightbox having a battery receiving portion or a hand receiving opening adapted to receive a portion of the user's hand being defined by the substantially inverted U-shaped configuration. In Parker, the battery receiving portion is in the handle portion 12, not the lightbox 74. Furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion in Parker of the lightbox 74 including a battery receiving portion. Additionally, the so-called opening in Parker is not a hand receiving opening, nor is it adapted to receive a portion of a user's hand.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3-9 and 13-16 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Swallow, U.S. Pat. 1,119,663.

Claim 10 has been amended to include the feature that the lightbox includes a battery receiving portion and a light source. In Swallow, the handle portion 10 includes the battery receiving portion. There is no teaching or suggestion of the combination of a lightbox having a battery receiving portion and a light source and a separate handle portion.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 10 and 11 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Claims 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Parsons et al., U.S. Pat. 6,916,104.

Claim 21 has been amended to include the features of the light-emitting portion being adjustably connected to the handle portion and being directionally adjustable relative to the handle portion to adjust the vertical and horizontal directions of the directional light beam relative to the handle portion. These features are not taught or suggested by Parsons et al. Parsons et al. discloses a handle portion connected to a light-emitting portion. However, there is no teaching or suggestion of the light-emitting portion being adjustably connected to the handle

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portion or being directionally adjustable relative to the handle portion to adjust the vertical and horizontal directions of the directional light beam relative to the handle portion.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 21-23 are allowable over the cited prior art.

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Section 103 Rejections

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swallow in view of Keller, U.S. Pat. 3,970,228. Claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parsons et al. as applied to claim 21 and further in view of Swallow.

Claim 21 has been amended to substantially incorporate the features of claim 24 and claim 24 has been canceled without prejudice. Amended claim 21 is patentable over Parsons et al. in view of Swallow because the combination of references does not teach or suggest the feature of the light-emitting portion being directionally adjustable relative to the handle portion to adjust the vertical and horizontal directions of the directional light beam relative to the handle portion. Thus, Applicant submits that amended claim 21 is patentable over Parsons et al. in view of Swallow.

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New Claims 25-36

Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 25-36 are allowable. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that all issues and rejections have been adequately addressed, that the claims are allowable, and that the case should be advanced to issuance.

If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss the claims, applicant encourages the Examiner to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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